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PATENT

Docket No. 150.00640102

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Eugene P. Marsh

Group Art Unit: 2815

Serial No.: 09/942,200

Examiner: J. Nguyen

Confirmation No.: 8194

Filed: 29 August 2001

For: DIFFUSION BARRIER LAYERS AND METHODS OF FORMING SAME1/23/03
Shm 15AMENDMENT AND RESPONSEAssistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231

FAX RECEIVED

JAN 21 2003

Dear Sir:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

In response to the Office Action dated 22 August 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph. Per 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, this paragraph is also shown in Appendix A with notations to indicate the changes made.

C) Methods of forming the co-deposited platinum:ruthenium alloy layer 14 are described in co-pending patent application entitled "Method for Producing Low Carbon/Oxygen Conductive Layers" having U.S. Serial No. 09/146,297, filed September 3, 1998, and issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,284,655 B1. For example, one such method includes forming a substantially carbon- and oxygen-free conductive layer in an oxidizing atmosphere in the presence of an organometallic catalyst using a chemical vapor deposition process. One skilled in the art will recognize that these methods and various other methods may be used to form the platinum:ruthenium alloy layer 14 according to the present invention.